

Sabo	Thompson	Watts (OK)
Sherman	Velazquez	Weller
Stenholm	Vento	Wolf
Taylor (MS)	Visclosky	

NOT VOTING—18

Ackerman	Lewis (GA)	Owens
Coble	Linder	Payne
Cooksey	Menendez	Roukema
Dixon	Molinari	Rush
Greenwood	Nussle	Sanders
Kaptur	Olver	Torres

□ 1124

Mr. PASCHELL changed his vote from "yea" to "nay."

So the Journal was approved.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GILLMOR). Will the gentleman from Texas [Mr. BRADY] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BRADY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces it will entertain ten 1-minute requests on each side.

HERSHEY RETREAT PAVES THE WAY TO MORE CIVIL DISCOURSE

(Mr. LAHOOD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in the spirit of bipartisanship on this side of the aisle to express my thanks and gratitude to the 200 Members who attended the bipartisan retreat that was held in Hershey, PA. It was an enormous success. We had about 150 spouses and over 100 children, and the headline in the Harrisburg paper on Sunday I think really depicts the outcome, which says: "Retreat declared success." And it was a success, in part because so many Members came, so many families came, and people really had an opportunity to build friendships and relationships that I believe will last well beyond our careers in Congress and, I think, will lead us to opportunities to really have meaningful dialog and debate in I hope what will be a much more civil atmosphere.

I want to express my deep gratitude to the gentleman from Colorado [Mr. SKAGGS], who cochaired this with me, the steering committee, the Speaker of the House [NEWT GINGRICH] and the Democratic leader [DICK GEPHARDT] for the extraordinary leadership that they showed in assisting us in getting the Members to come.

It was a great weekend, it was a great start. It is not the panacea, it is

not the solution, but we have begun what I believe is an important event that will lead us to more civil discourse and continue, I think, to build the idea that the House of Representatives is the highest legislative body and the work that we do here is very important and should be held in high regard.

□ 1130

ALL U.S. ALLIES SHOULD BE TREATED FAIRLY

(Ms. HARMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, I recently returned from a trip to Israel where I reviewed important aspects of the longstanding United States-Israel defense relationship. Nobody can visit this region without being struck by the fragility of the peace process and the looming potential for violence. During our meeting, Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechi emphasized both the military risks in the region and the willingness of Israel to take risks in pursuit of peace. I am deeply concerned, however, that the United States appears to be holding Israel to one standard and her peace partners to another. Friends and allies may disagree over the appropriateness or timing of building in Har Homa, but this administration's handling of the issue is surprising and potentially counterproductive—not to mention confusing.

The administration should be congratulated for standing up in the United Nations and vetoing the anti-Israel resolution brought before the Security Council earlier this month. While condemning the Israeli Government's decision to build Jewish housing in Har Homa, the resolution did not address the failure of the Palestinians to live up to many of their commitments under the Oslo accords. The resolution made no mention of the many steps Israel has taken for peace, including re-deploying Israeli security forces in Hebron, releasing terrorists convicted of killing Israelis and proposing to cede additional lands in the West Bank. The proposed United Nations resolution would have been extremely damaging to the peace process. The American veto told the world that we would not let our friend and ally be bullied, nor our concern for rational discourse and diplomacy be railroaded.

However, the actions this administration has taken since the U.N. veto—publicly criticizing Israel and agreeing to take part in an international conference in Gaza to which Israel was not even invited—threaten to undermine not only the positive effects of the veto, but the honest broker role the United States must play to promote peace in the Middle East.

Over the last week, the world has seen the President of the United States standing with Yassir Arafat and Egypt-

tian President Mubarak, harshly criticizing Israel while ignoring the tangible risks she has taken. These public reprimands and actions do not serve the cause of peace and can only increase the potential for violent confrontation.

Mr. Speaker, the administration needs to treat all of our allies fairly. It has not done so in this case.

POSITIVE EXPERIENCE IN HERSHEY, PA

(Mr. DELAY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, this past weekend I had the distinct pleasure to make some history with more than 200 of my colleagues in Hershey, PA at the bipartisan retreat. I want to congratulate the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. LAHOOD] and the gentleman from Colorado [Mr. SKAGGS] and everyone who worked so hard in putting this retreat together.

My experience in Hershey was very positive, and I want to thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for their cooperation in making this event a real success.

For most of the world, the U.S. House of Representatives means democracy. We, as Members of Congress, have a profound responsibility to treat this institution with respect, to uphold its rules, and to realize that the House and its traditions are bigger than any one person or party.

I also would like to remind my colleagues that disagreement in policy, disagreement in philosophy, disagreement in ideology is the wellspring of democracy, and I welcome spirited debate.

In the weeks, months, and years to come, I can guarantee one thing: We will all disagree. But after this weekend, I hope that those disagreements are made with the understanding that we all, as elected Members of Congress, are trying to do the best for our Nation.

KEEPING THE MOMENTUM OF HERSHEY GOING

(Mr. SKAGGS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SKAGGS. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to follow the good lead of my colleague from Illinois [Mr. LAHOOD] in addressing this side of the House in the spirit of the weekend just concluded, where we had a remarkable event occur: almost half of this body, with many spouses and children, spending some time together, doing the fundamental business of any institution, which is getting to know each other, developing some minimum level of trust and respect so that we can conduct our business here on the basis of policy, not on the basis of going after each other personally.